

## Dr. Iryna Vokhmyanina

Professor of Music Founder and Artistic Director of "Symphony of Motherhood" (Ukraine-Singapore)



## Symphony of Motherhood

Classical music helps to form a truer understanding of beauty, and contributes to the spiritual regeneration of man. Classical melodies are natural and organic for the hearing, they have a beneficial effect on the function of the whole body, and they create a feeling of psychological comfort, all of which contribute to greater intellectual and emotional development.

It's my pleasure to introduce the **unique project "Symphony of Motherhood"**. This is all about babies and Motherhood. It consists of classical music and poetry, crafted especially for not-yet-born babies, expecting mothers and mothers with young children, families and friends, everyone who cherish joy of Parenthood.

**Does playing classical music to babies make a difference?** The scientific researches proved that the listening to the classical music is beneficial to the development of children and not-yet-born babies. It may stimulate the brain in a way that helps educational and emotional development of children, make them smarter and boosts their creativity.

Moreover, many studies conclude that playing music to babies in the womb and in the early years create a feeling of calm, harmonic atmosphere and have positive influence on mother and baby.

As a mother, musician, and pianist myself, I have witnessed the benefits of classical music surrounding my children during my pregnancy too. I have 2 daughters, younger of this is a successful professional pianist, and elder is a psychologist and great music lover.

It's known as the **Mozart Effect**, a theory which is credited with boosting IQ, improving health, strengthening family ties and even producing the occasional child prodigy.

Therefore, given the opinions of numerous experts and our own experience, we decided to create the **unique project** based on the idea of positive influence of classical music on the mother and child - "Symphony of Motherhood". This is the project of prenatal training which includes concert series of **live classical music and poetry**, artistically crafted for families, expectant mothers and everyone who appreciate the joy and happiness of Maternity

**Symphony of Motherhood** was originally launched in Ukraine in 2010. The concerts there always have great success and full houses. Today, the project continues to be popular. Concerts are held in different cities of Ukraine, and in the best concert halls.

This project was successfully implemented in Singapore art scene in June 2013 at the Esplanade Recital hall and continues to develop.

Symphony of Motherhood includes the latest scientific research into the effects of music on development and wellbeing the mother and child. It supports and embodies the idea of **Mozart effect**. Moreover, it is also enriched and supplemented by poetry and screened artworks.

Why is this so important for you? Because the main idea of our project is to create a harmonious environment that is conducive for early interaction a mother with the child. To be precise, "a live" sound of a diverse range of musical instruments, as well as the sounds of the human voice, create a special emotional state, where a maternal attachment is born.

These "live" music affect both senses and the mind, actively form in children a harmonious attitude and perception of the world. It also strengthens the family ties – if you listen to music with the whole family.

**The music program** includes a wide range of musical instruments of various timbre and physical characteristics (such as string, wind, keyboards), different styles and genres of music (such as Baroque, Classical, Romantic, folk classics, etc.), compositions by Mozart, Schumann, Ravel, Tchaikovsky etc.

Furthermore, each concert includes vocal music, and the central role belongs to the **lullaby**. The lullaby is a special dialogue between mother and baby, a dialogue coming from the heart, filled with love, tenderness and care. Lullabies help to form the first impressions of a child about the world, need in spiritual word and music.

**Poetic text**, which we also use in each concert, positively stimulates the intellectual development of the child, elevates the mood of the mother. Poetry is also beneficial to the training of intonation-rhythmic hearing in the child; and helps to develop speech recognition and pronunciation.

The musical program is accompanied by the **demonstration of reproductions** of the great masters of painting that showed to be effective in creating intellectual and emotional stimulation. It is the paintings of famous masters such as Madonna by Rafael, Leonardo da Vinci, Rubens, Poisson, Renoir etc.

The music is performed by both **professional artists and talented young musicians.** Young virtuosos are the positive example of the harmonious development and personal growth that can result to the early immersion of a child in spirituality and beauty through music.

Usually, the concert hall is filled with the flow of positive energy to the benefit of both mother and child, and all family. The performance is entertaining, relaxing, yet deeply emotional and educating. It creates harmonious environment, conducive for early interaction with the child.

As loving parents, we have a unique possibility to create the internal security, the confidence, the love and mutual understanding that is necessary to a child's positive development through the effective use of classical music.